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THE ENGLISH MISSION—BUSINESS BEGUN.

Lord Ashburton, the British Extraordinary and Special Minister, passed, as we learn, two or three hours at the Department of State on the 7th inst.

MR. CLAY'S MANIFESTO.

Mr. Clay has been a candidate for the Presidency from the moment of his return from Europe, at the close of the last war, up to the present time, now a period of five-and-twenty years. Twice or thrice he has gone to the polls, and once with the whole support of the party to which he belonged. That he will continue to be a candidate, till success or death extinguishes such a condition, no one acquainted with his character and his indomitable ambition can doubt. Let us do Mr. Clay justice; let us commend his virtues, and applaud his talents; let us praise him for all in him that is praiseworthy; and this the more cheerfully, as we do not intend to extenuate his political faults, and the fatal, fatal consequences of his recent political conduct. Without much literature, or any great extent of general knowledge, he has a strong understanding, now a good deal cultivated by habits of business. A good person, a fine voice, an attractive and commanding manner, fit him eminently for public debate; and he loves to a lamentable excess, what he excels in. His irritable temper brooks no contradiction, and by far fonder of invective and retort, than of the influences of soft persuasion, neither friend nor foe, who opposes him in debate, can expect quarter. Indeed, on these occasions he treats his friends worse than his foes; for while he looks upon the latter as enemies, in a lawful war, he regards the former as rebellious subjects who deserve no mercy. To precise logic, or cool reasoning, he has little pretence; but for the illustration and enforcement of general principles, his resources are respectable, and the skill with which he uses them evinces both adroitness and practice. He has other important qualities of a distinguished leader in popular assemblies. He is bold, fearless, ready, ardent, and when discomfited and overthrown, as he often is, even in a good cause, by his imprudence and excess, he can retire, beating such a note of retreat nevertheless, as still seems to have an air of triumph in it. Excessively fond of admiration, as a public orator, and consequently studying effect more than a wise man should, he cannot, and never could, forego a joke, or a sarcasm, which should bring applause from the gallery, though, at the same time, it should plant a dagger, or create a *vulnus immedicabile*, in another's heart. The natural result of this temper has been fully shown. While no man, in his speeches, gains more general applause, no man inflicts so much private pain, or creates so deep-seated a dislike in the bosom of his adversaries.

The history of Mr. Clay's opinions, since 1806, and of his steady efforts—steady in their objects, though far from steady in their means—must hereafter form topics of discussion. The position in which he has now chosen to place himself, and the hostilities which he has commenced, render this absolutely necessary, for the purposes of lawful defence. At present, we confine ourselves to recent occurrences.

Mr. Clay was a candidate for the nomination of President, at the Harrisburg Convention, in December 1839. His sanguine and ardent temperament would not suffer him to indulge in the least apprehension of defeat. No friend, nor all his friends together, could persuade him that Gen. Harrison or Gen. Scott would be more likely than himself to succeed against Mr. Van Buren. He would not believe it—did not believe it—does not believe it now. At this moment, he is perfectly convinced, that if he had been nominated, he would have been elected; and the defeat of his nomination he imputes to treachery and fraud. There are those who preferred another candidate, and whom, for that reason alone, he chooses to consider and denounce as enemies and traitors, whom he has since pursued, and will pursue, till they go to their graves, or he goes to his, with implacable resentment. He has an iron memory for injuries; and he is like other men who hate without cause. A sort of consciousness that they themselves are wrong, and that they have no cause to hate, only leads them to hate the more. A conscience, accusing itself of unjust resentments, often seeks to quiet its own pangs, by increased exasperation.

As to Mr. Clay's apparently graceful withdrawal from the controversy, for the sake of harmony, and the letter produced and read on the occasion, there was nothing in all this but show. Mr. Clay's friends never gave up their persistence, their pertinacity, their adherence (to use the strongest Parliamentary phrase) to Mr. Clay's nomination; till he was beaten, thoroughly beaten, irreversibly beaten, in the Convention. And then, an attempt was made, to turn his defeat into a withdrawal.

But from that disappointment Mr. Clay's wounded spirit has never recovered. He soon afterwards, indeed, endeavored to make the best of it; to support General Harrison's election, and to place himself in the line of succession next to the General, who had declared his intention of serving one term only.

THE DYING FOX.

All the world agrees, from Æsop down, that fable is an admirable vehicle for conveying sentiment and truth. We will not dispute the matter at large with Rousseau, whether it be not ridiculous to make birds and beasts talk; but our own opinion is, that as reported by Æsop, La Fontaine, and Gay, they do often talk very admirably; far better, we think, (speaking with all possible deference and reverence,) than more modern reporters are able, at all times, to make intellectual bipeds. But much of this, doubtless, depends on the reporter.

Among Mr. Clay's posthumous, or at least, mortuary resolutions, is one on the subject of the *mileage* of members of Congress, which is expressed in the following grave, and solemn and patriotic language:

The Madisonian.

VOL. V.—NO. 136.]

WASHINGTON: SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1842.

[WHOLE NO. 788.]

Resolved, therefore, That Congress be called upon to retrench its expenses—by abridging the duration of the long sessions; by regulating and more clearly defining the *mileage* of the members; and by diminishing its contingent expenses, and especially those incurred for stationery, for printing, for the employment of clerks for committees, and for folding printed matter to be transmitted through the mails, &c. &c. &c.

In reading this resolution, we were reminded of a certain account for *mileage*, rendered by a member of the House of Representatives some eighteen or twenty years ago, and allowed and paid by Mr. Clay, at that time Speaker of the House; and this recollection was accompanied by a revival, in our memory, of the fable of the Dying Fox. If we remember, the substance of that fable is as follows:

"A Fox, in life's extreme decay,
Weak, sick, and faint, expiring lay;
All appetite had left his maw,
And age disarmed his rumbling jaw.
His numerous race around him stand,
To learn their dying sire's command;
He raised his head with whining moan,
And thus he heard the feeble tone:

"Ah! son, from evil ways depart,
My crimes lie heavy on my heart.
See, the murdered geese appear!
Why are those bleeding turkeys here?
Why all around this cackling train,
Who haunt my ears for chickens slain?
Oh gluttons! says the drooping sire,
Restrain inordinate desire;
Solve, in credit, and esteem,
And the good name you lost, redeem.

"The counsel's good, a fox replies,
Could we perform what you advise;
But, if a hen roost be decreased,
We shall be thought to share the feast;
The change will never be believed;
A lost good name is ne'er retrieved.

Nay, then, replies the feeble Fox—
But hark! I hear a hen, that clucks—
Go! but be moderate in your food;
A chicken, too, might do me good."

So much for the Fable. And now we present an account, from official documents, of the *mileage* allowed to Jno. Scott, member of Congress from Missouri. Our reader will note the date. Mr. Scott, as is well known, in February 1825, gave the vote of Missouri for Mr. Adams, and Mr. Adams being elected, Mr. Clay became Secretary of State. We impute no motives, but here are the facts.

Let it be remembered that all payments are made on the *Speaker's warrant*:

2d. Sess., 17 Cong. P. P. Barbour Speaker, 1823.
John Scott, of Missouri,
Mileage from St. Genevieve,
1100 Miles at 80 cents \$880
92 days attendance \$830—\$1616

1st. Session, 18th Con. H. CLAY, Speaker, 1824.
John Scott, of Missouri,
Mileage from St. Genevieve,
1100 Miles at 80 cents \$880
179 days attendance \$1432—\$2312
Add 500 miles at 80 cents 400
500 miles short twice in traveling in coming here by water, 1000 miles at 40 c. 400
50 miles short seven times in returning by water—3500 1400
\$1512

It will be seen by this, that Mr. Scott was not only then for the first time allowed for travel *by the river route*, but that Mr. Clay kindly corrected the errors of his predecessors and advanced the small item of *25 TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR EXTRAS IN ARREAR*!

In connection with this document, we see the great propriety, and congruity, and consistency of Mr. Clay's resolution. How charmingly it reads, as an admonition from the dying to the living!

"Ah! sons, from wicked ways depart,
My crimes lie heavy on my heart."

And yet, the *moribund* is not entirely free from all regret of the vain enjoyments of this transitory life. He has some smack yet, some relish for the perishable goods of this mortal state. His heart fails him, when he essays to advise absolute abstinence from the pleasures of power and place. He yields to the importunity of others, and consents to one more effort for the spoils. This is mainly to gratify the honest desires of others; yet why should self be always forgotten?

"Oh hark! I hear a hen that clucks!
Go, but be moderate in your food!
A chicken, too, might do me good!"

THE TARIFF.

In pursuing our design to show that in adjusting a tariff for revenue, it is a matter of great national interest that such discriminating duties be laid as may incidentally protect our manufactures from ruinous competition, it may be proper for us to repeat, that we by no means intend to agitate the "vexed question" touching the power of this Government to impose duties with the mere design of protecting particular interests. We advocate no such doctrine; but at a time when the wants of the country demand a large accession of revenue, which must be raised by means of duties on imports—unless, indeed, direct taxation be resorted to, which we suppose few will recommend, we would call on Congress to survey the great interests of the country, and in adjusting a scale of duties for revenue, so to discriminate as shall best secure the rights of all, without neglecting or oppressing any.

It has appeared to us that in reasoning on this subject hitherto, many, whose opinions we hold in high respect, have been too much disposed to treat human labor every where as a mere article of merchandise. We cannot better express what we would say than to borrow the language of a recent able essay on this subject:

"Let it be recollected that political economists regard *lowness of wages as nothing*—the amount to be produced for a given sum as every thing, because

the production goes into the hands of capitalists—of the few, and the cost of production comes from their pockets to the many. Labor is looked upon by them precisely as the capitalists regard it. It is the amount that can be employed in production at the lowest cost. It is of no consequence, in considering the abstract question of national wealth, in whose pockets the wealth of a nation is deposited—whether it be in those of a few, or those of the many; but it is a vital question to the laborers themselves, and one that an enlarged and liberal view of the subject embraces."

Now, it is entirely clear, that if the modern free trade opinions should prevail, no article of manufactures or of agriculture—nothing indeed which enters into the list of the common wants and comforts of life, can be produced in this country to any considerable extent, without reducing the rate of wages for labor as low as in any of the nations of the earth producing the same articles. We must, in fact, produce them at the foreign cost, with the trifling addition of freight—and to do so, labor in this, as in other nations, must become but another name for poverty, suffering, tears, and degradation—or else we must abandon our market to the foreign producer. No American statesman—no philosopher—would surely desire to see this state of things, even if it could be submitted to by those most deeply interested. It should not be forgotten that the producing classes in this favored land are not to be dealt with, or estimated by any rules of calculation adapted to the condition of the operatives of other nations. With them rests a very large portion of the intelligence, and of the moral, as well as physical, strength upon which our destiny as a nation must rest.

We have observed another common error adopted by some who have engaged in the discussion of this subject. In estimating the importance of our manufacturing interests, and their claims on the legislation of the country, it has been common to refer to the 900,000 manufacturers and artisans as the individuals alone interested in this matter; and upon the capital directly invested in manufactures—some \$275,000,000—as the only capital to be effected by legislation on this subject. As well might we attempt to establish a scheme of separate interests between the head and the heart, or the right hand and the left; as to divorce the interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures. "Neither agriculture, manufactures, nor commerce," (said Mr. Calhoun, in the Senate, February, 1815,) taken separately, are the cause of wealth: it flows from them combined, and cannot exist without each. The wealth of any single nation or individual, it is true, may not be immediately derived from the three, but it always presupposes the existence of the three sources, though derived immediately from one or two of them only." And again: "When our manufactures are grown to certain perfection, as soon they will, under the fostering care of Government, we will no longer experience those evils. The farmer will find a ready market for his surplus produce, and what is of almost equal consequence, a certain supply of his wants. His prosperity will diffuse itself to every class of the community." We quote the above not to endorse the sentiment there expressed by the Senator in relation to the fostering care of Government, but to strengthen our view of the intimate relation and sympathy existing between the three great sources of national wealth, as well as of strength and independence.

Without dwelling on the immense amount of agricultural labor and capital employed in providing the means of subsistence alone for 800,000 manufacturers and those immediately dependent on them, let us glance at the employment of these agents on the land and on the sea, in producing some of the raw materials for the operations of the artisan, and in conveying them to his hands.

As touching as the fact may appear, it is believed to be near the truth that in sheep, and the lands necessary for subsisting them, not less than \$120,000,000 are invested—saying nothing of the large amount required to perform the various duties required in the care of them, and the transportation of 50,000,000 pounds of wool produced from them annually. We have already alluded to a fact, not sufficiently considered, that a large amount of tonnage, both in the foreign and coasting trade, is employed in transactions depending immediately on manufactures; but there is another fact in relation to this branch of our subject, which has received still less attention. The ships employed in the whale fishery of the United States are now about 600, requiring at least 14,000 men for their navigation. The amount of capital invested and the annual products are very nearly estimated in tabular statements, which we have not at hand, but the aggregate sum it may well be supposed is enormous. One-third of the product of this fishery is consumed by the various manufactures; and when it is remembered that beside the number of men directly employed in these ships, at least an equal number connected with them are constantly employed on shore in the making of casks, cordage, iron work, &c. for refitting them on their return from their long and perilous enterprise, we have a good illustration of that intimate and harmonious relation which the three great national interests bear to each other. It is interesting to trace this connection and to see in a thousand ways where no necessary sympathy would appear to exist, how this mutual dependence runs through the whole structure of our system of business and interests; and to us the examination of this subject, and the tracing of these subtle ties which unite us to each other through the whole length and breadth of our land appears to be full of hope, and one of the surest means of arousing that national spirit to which we alluded in the outset.

It is a fearful evil in our political condition that no subject, however momentous the interests involved, can be discussed in a spirit of candor. We would by no means cast indiscriminate censure upon the members of the present Congress. There are, we know, many men in the two Houses who look upon the scenes each day enacting in their presence with as much pain

and solicitude as we can possibly feel. The Government bankrupt, and the solemn obligations of the nation violated and dishonored before the world, it were to be supposed that the Representatives of the People would scarcely give themselves necessary rest until every remedy in their power was applied to relieve the distresses of the country, and restore the credit of the Government; but, instead of this, the great business of a portion of the Representatives would seem to be to decide which should most foully abuse and traduce the President of the United States and his constitutional advisers.

"Faction embroils the world; and every tongue, Is moved with flattery, or with scandal hung: And all many upon each party's thrown, Which both promote, and both alike dishonour."

We repeat, however, that there are many able and patriotic men in Congress who deeply lament this state of things. They are at work in season and out of season endeavoring to produce order from the chaos that has so long reigned. We still hope and trust that their exertions may be successful, and that when the subject of the Tariff's brought before the Representatives of the People, they will enter upon its examination and adjustment, free from local or party prejudice, and ready to yield to the impulses of a lofty and extended patriotism, which no subject is better calculated to arouse.

CONGRESS.

In the House, on Thursday, Mr. Black proposed an amendment of the journal introducing the fact that he had moved a suspension of rules to bring in the resolution he had offered the previous day—but his amendment was ruled out by the decision of the Speaker.

From the Committee on Commerce, Mr. Kennedy, of Md., asked leave to report a bill to prevent the transportation of passengers and the carrying of letters coastwise by foreign vessels. Objection was made; but the rules being suspended, the bill was reported, read twice, referred to the Committee of the Whole, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. McKee obtained leave to have a resolution read, calling on the President to communicate (if not incompatible with the public interests) any correspondence that may have been had with the Government of Great Britain in relation to international copy-right.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Thompson, of Indiana, in the chair. On the motion of Mr. Adams, the Committee rose and reported the bill for building a war steamer—which bill had been laid aside the previous day, but could not be reported for want of a quorum.

When this had been done, Mr. Thompson resumed the chair, and the Appropriation bill was taken up. To the section appropriating \$475,000 for defraying the expenses of the United States courts, Mr. McLellan, of New York, offered an amendment, regulating the compensation of the attorneys, clerks, and marshals. Mr. Fillmore objected to it, as out of order. The Chair pronounced it in order; and after a debate in which Messrs. McLellan, Fillmore, Gwin, J. C. Clarke and Cave Johnson participated, the decision of the chair was sustained, and the amendment was adopted.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll moved to reduce the sum appropriated from \$475,000 to \$375,000. The increase in the expenses of the Judiciary had been more rapid than in those of any other Department. In 1815 they had amounted only to about \$40,000, and for 1842 it is proposed to appropriate \$475,000. Even the additional expenditures which would be incurred in consequence of the Bankrupt Law could not require so enormous a sum if the courts did a day's work in a day. The practice of merely opening and closing the courts, without performing any judicial functions, or of setting merely two or three hours, and then fully paying the officers, witnesses, &c. caused, in his opinion, the astounding growth of the expenses of the United States Courts. Hoping that attention being called to the abuse, would superinduce its correction, he moved a reduction of the appropriation to a sum, which he deemed amply sufficient for the judiciary under proper attention to duty.

Mr. Adams asked if the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means had inquired what charges had been made by the District Attorney and Marshal of Connecticut for the expenses incurred on account of the Amistad negroes. The expenditures on this account he conceived would make a large proportion of the amount paid for the judiciary.

Mr. Fillmore had made no such inquiry. The debate on Mr. Ingersoll's amendment was continued by Messrs. Cooper, of Georgia, Barnard, and by the mover.

Mr. McKee was of opinion that the item of \$475,000 was included in the rule which transferred contingent appropriations to a distinct bill. He was overruled by the Chair. He went into an examination of some of the expenses of the courts, and was followed by Mr. Winthrop, Mr. Pope, Mr. Roosevelt, Saltonstall, and others. The amendment of Mr. Ingersoll prevailed by a vote of 79, noes not counted. Other amendments were then offered to the same clause by different members.

The Senate took up the Loan bill, and Messrs. Buchanan, Rives, and Simmons delivered their views.

ANOTHER MAIL ROBBERY, PROBABLY.

POST OFFICE, BALTIMORE, April 7, 1842.
SIR: I have to report that the portmanteau due here from Wheeling, Virginia, this morning, which usually contains the whole Western letter mail, for this point and places Eastward, was not received; although the newspaper bags from beyond, and the way mail through, came right to hand.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
C. T. MADDOX,
For the Postmaster.

Hon. C. A. WICKLIFFE,
Postmaster General.

THE DON AND THE BRITISH MAIL.

From the following it would appear that a difficulty has lately occurred between the officers having in charge the mail on board of the steam packet "Tay," and the Spanish mail officer at Turks Island. A good deal of feeling appears to have been excited, and it is far from impossible, that the occurrence may lead to ill blood between the two governments. The Don does not seem to fancy the running of a British mail through his possessions without his sanction, and were it not for the utterly impoverished and prostrated condition of the Spanish nation, there might be some chance of a *flare up*. This packet scheme looks well upon paper, but there is something in its practical operation which appears to us at variance with the independence of national feeling which would dictate a certain local control as indispensable in the transfer of the mail.

The English steam packets at Havana.—A Havana mail of March 19th, to the New York Express says:

"The 'Tay' English mail steamer, is just in from Turks Island with dates from England to the 3d of February. A great excitement was caused by the mail officer on board refusing to deliver the mails to the Spanish mail officers. When they attempted to take them he drew his sword. A company of twenty-five soldiers was immediately sent on board with fixed bayonets, and ordered to use them if the least resistance was offered, and the offending officer went sent on shore under a guard. The commander of the steamer meanwhile refused to meddle in the affair, alleging that he had nothing to do with the mails. They were in special charge of the mail officer who was put on board with them. The passengers or any one belonging to the boat have not been allowed to land, and as yet we know not how the affair will turn. It seems to be a disjunct concern, and I fear may breed difficulty between the two governments."

A LITTLE TOO LATE.

If all persons would only attach proper consequence to the necessity of punctuality in the affairs of life, the machinery of civil society would run much more smoothly and comfortably. Every man has his engagements, and each depends on others for the ability to perform his own promises. Indeed so frequently is such the case, that we have known men most unjustly censured for apparent inattention to promises, when, in truth, the omission to perform has been entirely attributable to the fault of others. A makes an engagement with B, at 9 o'clock, and B promises to see C at 10, and C in turn has told D that he will be with him at noon.—Nine o'clock comes, and B is kept waiting in consequence of A's not having arrived. Ten o'clock strikes, and B's promise to C is broken because A came so late that the intended business cannot be dispatched in time to let him be at C's at the appointed hour, and so it goes through the whole string of engagements connected with one another. Now would it not be a much better way to have an understanding that all engagements upon which after action may be dependent, shall be met with the strictest punctuality as to time as well as place. To be a little too late is a common fault, and yet it has decided the destinies of millions for good or for evil. How many a life has been forfeited owing to a doctor's being a little too late—how many fortunes have been lost by the heirs being a little too late—and, more shocking than either, how many a man has remained a bachelor for life by being a little too late.

EXCITEMENT IN RHODE ISLAND.

A portion of the People of Rhode Island seem to be resolved to retain their old form of Government, in favor of which a majority of the votes of the State have lately declared, whilst on the other hand, the friends of the new Constitution appear to be quite as firm in their advocacy of a new order of things. How the matter will end is of course beyond the reach of human ken, but we sincerely hope that our friends of "the plantations" will suffer the discretion for which they are so noted, to have all due weight in the arrangement of the affair. The eyes of the other States of the Confederacy are upon the birth place of the American Navy, and we sincerely trust that whatever irritation may have prevailed heretofore, nothing will be suffered to occur that shall cast a shade upon the glories of the "old thirteen." If there be differences of opinion among them, they must keep cool, and "reason together."

RESOLUTIONS FROM RHODE ISLAND.

PROVIDENCES, R. I., April 4, 1842.

To the Editor:
The following resolutions passed, unanimously, both branches of the Legislature of this State, on Saturday last. It is the first act of a whole State, during the present session, calling upon Congress for harmonious and speedy action on measures of vital importance to the Union. All parties here have united in the call; let it meet a patriotic response from all parties in Congress:

Resolved, That the embarrassed condition of the public Treasury and the critical state of our foreign relations, call most imperatively upon all parties in Congress to unite, for the relief and defence of our common country.

Resolved, That a copy of the preceding resolution be transmitted to our Senators and Representatives, to be by them presented to each House of Congress.

Twenty-Seventh Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

IN SENATE.

THURSDAY, April 7, 1842.

Mr. YOUNG presented the petition of one hundred and five citizens residing in the northern part of Illinois, asking for a grant of land for the completion of the Illinois and Michigan canal.

Mr. PRESTON presented the petition of Robert Miller, praying that he may be released from the payment of certain custom house bonds.

Mr. BENTON presented a copy of the proceedings of a Democratic meeting held in Missouri.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented a memorial from Dauphin county, asking for protection on iron; also, a petition from citizens of Columbia county, Pennsylvania, praying that American industry may be protected from the ruinous effects of foreign competition.

Mr. WRIGHT presented a memorial from importers and dealers in jewelry, in the city of New York, representing that the duty at present imposed upon foreign jewelry is so high as not merely to injure their trade, but to defeat the purpose of revenue; and they pray for a reduction of duty so as to protect them from the effects of smuggling; also, a petition from the town of Bath, New York,

numerously signed by ladies and gentlemen, praying for a reduction of the rate of letter postage, and permission to transmit newspapers through the mails, with a mere name written on them, without subjecting the persons to whom they shall be sent, to postage other than that charged upon newspapers.

Mr. BAYARD observed that, in his last conference with the Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, and had ascertained that there was a great deal of out-door employment to be done on account of that Committee and the Committee on the District of Columbia. Under these circumstances, they came to the conclusion to ask for a clerk to serve the two Committees, for it was utterly impossible for them to obtain all the necessary information for their action without such assistance, as a great many extracts were to be made from the files of the Departments and other incidental business transacted.

Mr. MANGUM said that there was a vast accumulation of business now on the hands of the Naval Committee, to which he was attached, and it must still increase, as questions were constantly springing up which required information from the Department; and it was therefore indispensably necessary to procure the services of a clerk, as the members of the committee had not time to go to the Department.

Mr. KING observed that he had mentioned heretofore that the practice of employing clerks to the committees had grown up of late years. Formerly each member took a portion of the business, and transacted it himself; and when the members of the committee had not time to go to the Department, they were to be attended to, this course was not departed from. But when clerks were employed, they ought to be dismissed as soon as the principal reports shall have been made, and not retained as a burden on the country. As a member of the Committee on the District of Columbia, he was perfectly satisfied to do any portion of its business, which the Chairman might intrust to his care. He would not oppose the motion made by the Senator from Delaware, but he trusted that, if it should prevail, and the clerk be employed, he would not be employed longer than it should be necessary, and that it would not be considered as a precedent for persons to hang round the committees, in the hope of getting employment to sustain themselves in extravagance.

Mr. MANGUM remarked that the Committee on Naval Affairs were engaged in the consideration of subjects which required details from the Department, and by the payment of three or four dollars to a clerk, they would be greatly assisted, and a large amount of money be saved to the country. The labor to be performed by the clerk was more properly that pertaining to a messenger; and he (Mr. Mangum) could not attend to it, as he was the chairman of the Printing Committee, in addition to the duties which he occupied on the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. HENDERSON said that there was not sufficient business in any one of the committees to employ a clerk one-half his time; therefore he supposed that a single clerk could serve four or five committees, and, by a proper regulation, this could be done.

Mr. BAYARD remarked that the motion which he had submitted was perfectly in accordance with the views of the Senator from Mississippi, as both the Naval Committee and the Committee on the District of Columbia would have a right to demand the services of the clerk.

The motion to employ a clerk was then agreed to. Mr. BENTON desired the yeas and nays.

Mr. BAYARD reminded the Senator from Missouri that the decision of the Chair had been announced.

The CHAIR also made a similar statement. Mr. BENTON said that nobody knew, then, what was going on.

Mr. BAYARD (smiling.) Perhaps the Senator, at the time the vote was taken, was attending to his private business.

Mr. BENTON. Well, I move a reconsideration. We'll take the vote in that way.

Mr. BAYARD. Certainly, sir, although it will be contrary to the order of proceedings.

Mr. BENTON. I waive the motion, sir—I waive the motion.

On the motion of Mr. KING, the bill reimbursing the State of Alabama for money expended by her in calling out militia for the suppression of Indian hostilities in 1835 and 1836, was taken up as in Committee of the Whole, and was subsequently engrossed for a third reading.

The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz:

The bill to confirm certain entries of land in the State of Louisiana, and authorizing patents to issue for the same;

The bill for the relief of John Nix;

The bill for the relief of Enoch Kidder; and

The bill authorizing the relinquishment of the sixteenth sections granted for the use of schools and the entry of lands in lieu thereof.

THE LOAN BILL.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the Loan bill—the question pending being on the amendment of Mr. Walker, proposing the proceeds of the sale of the public lands, *discretely, expeditiously, and involuntarily*, for the payment of the interest and the redemption of the principal of the stock heretofore issued under the Loan law of last session, the stock proposed to be issued in pursuance of the bill now before the Senate, and suspending the operation of the Distribution act for that purpose.

Mr. EVANS gave notice that when the pending amendment shall have been disposed of, he would submit the following amendment, viz:

Strike out all after the enacting clause in the fourth section, and insert:

That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he hereby is, authorized to dispose of the stock heretofore issued, or any part thereof, at its par value; but no part thereof shall be disposed of under par until the same has been advertised a reasonable time, and proposals for subscription to said loan invited; and the said Secretary is hereby authorized to accept such proposals, if he deem it for the interest of the United States so to do, as shall offer the highest price for said stock or any part thereof; or to appoint an agent or agents, as provided in the third section of the act approved July 21, 1841, be or be called, to negotiate the same; provided that no stock shall be disposed of at a lower rate than the highest price offered in said proposals.

Mr. BUCHANAN addressed the Senate, and expressed the opinion that they could not, on reasonable terms, procure the money proposed to be borrowed by this bill, without making the pledge of the amendment of the Senator from Mississippi, which he hoped would be adopted. In the course of his remarks, he said that the chances of war between this country and Great Britain were about equal, and that, in consideration of their mutual interests, it would be an act of folly to undertake the issue of two nations to come into collision. There were many questions to be adjusted, and if all of them were as much as the whole; but as an ambassador had lately arrived from England, bearing in his hand, it was said, the olive branch of peace, he was inclined to be a word to disturb, as far as he was concerned, the probability of a peaceable negotiation. With regard to a tariff, he was in favor of raising only as much revenue from imports as would be necessary to support the Government, but, in raising that revenue, he would make no distinction between the voice extended, a discrimination in favor of the great commercial, agricultural, and manufacturing interests of the country, with a view to encourage, to assist, and to give them incidental protection, so as to render us independent of foreign nations